

Message Text

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ACTION AGR-20

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 L-03 H-03 STR-08 PA-04 PRS-01

USIE-00 AID-20 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 SP-03 CIEP-02

LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 DRC-01

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1540

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DEPARTMENT PASS AGRICULTURE FOR STEINMETZ AND STROBEL

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, GW

SUBJECT: POULTRY INSPECTION

1. ON APRIL 3, AGATTACHE IN THE ABSENCE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY AND THE UNDER SECRETARY, MET WITH MR. DIETZEL, THE PERSONAL AIDE TO UNDER SECRETARY OF HEALTH PROF. DR. WOLTERS AND DELIVERED THE FOLLOWING COMMUNICATION: QUOTE

DEAR SIR: THIS IS IN REGARD TO THE LETTER FROM THE FEDERAL MINISTER OF HEALTH OF MARCH 20 SIGNED BY DR. RASCHKE ACCEPTING CERTAIN U.S. POULTRY SLAUGHTER PLANTS FOR EXPORT TO GERMANY. THIS WAS IN RESPONSE TO MY LETTER OF MARCH 18, 1974, LISTING THOSE PLANTS WHICH ARE IN THE ESSENTIAL POINTS MEETING THE GERMAN HEALTH REQUIREMENTS BUT WHICH FOR ORGANIZATIONAL REASONS HAVE NOT YET BEEN FINALLY INSPECTED.

UNFORTUNATELY, THE INITIAL LIST WAS NOT COMPLETE AND
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WAS THEREFORE SUPPLEMENTED BY AN ADDITIONAL LIST OF.

PLANTS WHICH ALSO ARE IN THE ESSENTIAL POINTS MEETING THE GERMAN VETERINARY REQUIREMENTS. THE ADDITIONAL LIST WAS PROVIDED TO THE FEDERAL MINISTER ON MARCH 22, 1974. THIS LIST INCLUDED PRIMARILY POULTRY PLANTS LOCATED IN THE WESTERN REGIONS OF THE UNITED STATES.

WE WERE INFORMED BY TELEPHONE ON APRIL 2, 1974 THAT THE SECOND LIST OF PLANTS HAS NOT BEEN ACCEPTED UNDER THE SAME CONDITIONS GRANTED TO THE FIRST LIST. THIS HAS CREATED A VERY DIFFICULT SITUATION FOR U.S. EXPORTERS OF POULTRY MEAT AND FOR THE U.S. INSPECTION SERVICE. EVERY EFFORT HAS BEEN MADE BY THE U.S. INSPECTION SERVICE TO COMPLY WITH THE GERMAN REQUIREMENTS AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE AND TO LIMIT THE NUMBER OF FIRMS TO THOSE WHICH HAVE AN INTEREST IN THE GERMAN MARKET. THERE ARE 1,600 FIRMS IN THE U.S. WHICH COULD HAVE POTENTIALLY QUALIFIED TO MEET THE GERMAN INSPECTION REQUIREMENTS. OF THOSE PLANTS WE HAVE SUBMITTED ONLY 48, AND CONSIDERING THE ADMINISTRATIVE DIFFICULTIES WE FEEL THAT THIS IS INDEED A REASONABLE AND QUICK RESPONSE TO A VERY DIFFICULT ADMINISTRATIVE PROBLEM.

IT IS INDEED DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND WHY THE VETERINARY AUTHORITIES IN THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY CANNOT ACCEPT ALL 48 PLANTS WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT ANY POSSIBLE MARGINAL DEFICIENCIES WILL BE CORRECTED WITHIN A PERIOD OF 2 OR 3 MONTHS. WE HAVE NO WAY OF EXPLAINING TO OUR EXPORTERS THIS INCONSISTENT TREATMENT, BUT IT IS OBVIOUS WHEN COMPARING THE TWO LISTS SUBMITTED THAT WESTERN EXPORTERS ARE BEING DENIED THE SAME OPPORTUNITIES AS EXPORTERS IN THE EASTERN SECTION OF THE UNITED STATES. THERE IS CERTAINLY NO DIFFERENCE IN THEIR WILLINGNESS AND ABILITY TO COMPLY WITH GERMAN REGULATIONS. SOME OF THE PLANTS ON THE SECOND LIST ARE ACTIVELY ENGAGED IN THE EXPORT OF POULTRY MEAT TO GERMANY AT THIS TIME. THEY

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ACTION AGR-20

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USIE-00 AID-20 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02 INR-10

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O 031752Z APR 74

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1541

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REQUIRE THE SAME OPPORTUNITIES ALREADY GRANTED TO THOSE PLANTS ON THE FIRST LIST. THE RECENT UNCERTAINTY CAUSED BY THE FEDERAL MINISTER'S DECISION HAS CREATED A MAJOR PROBLEM FOR THESE FIRMS IN THEIR BUSINESS OPERATIONS. NEEDLESS TO SAY, THESE FIRMS ARE IN DANGER OF LOSING THEIR MARKETS IN GERMANY.

ON THIS BASIS, WE STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT CONSIDERATION BE GIVEN IMMEDIATELY TO APPROVING THE LIST OF PLANTS SUBMITTED IN OUR LETTER OF MARCH 22, 1974. THE DELAY IN MAKING THE NAMES OF THE PLANTS AVAILABLE WAS DUE TO THE GEOGRAPHIC SITUATION AND THE ADMINISTRATIVE LOAD IN WASHINGTON. WE CAN ASSURE YOU THERE WILL BE NO MORE PLANTS CONSIDERED UNDER THIS TRANSITIONAL PROGRAM.

WE WOULD APPRECIATE A PROMPT AND POSITIVE REPLY TO OUR REQUEST. UNQUOTE

2. THE LETTER WAS DISCUSSED IN DETAIL WITH MR. DIETZEL. WE DREW PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO OUR VETERINARY SERVICE OPERATING UNDER TIME PRESSURE AND, RESULTING FROM THIS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FACT, THE OBVIOUS DISCRIMINATION BY FEDMINHEALTH AGAINST OUR EXPORT PLANTS IN THE WESTERN REGIONS. WE EXPLAINED THAT SUCH DISCRIMINATION WOULD BE INTOLERABLE IN OUR SYSTEM.

3. MR. DIETZEL PROMISED THAT HE WILL PRESENT THE MATTER TO THE UNDER SECRETARY RIGHT AFTER HIS RETURN TOMORROW MORNING. HE INDICATED THAT A REPLY TO OUR REQUEST MIGHT BE EXPECTED FOR FRIDAY, APRIL 5.
HILLENBRAND

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